

To: Eve Sinclair[eve.sinclair@lacity.org]
Cc: councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org[councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org]
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tue 4/30/2019 11:07:22 PM
Subject: Re: Homeless Encampment Hansen Dam and Brush Fires

Good afternoon,

Can you tell me what entity is responsible for the encampments in the Little Tujunga wash just north of the Foothill overpass. They are out in the open camped by the trees that are growing up in the middle of the wash. A large turn out of cops and a police helicopter were here on Sunday and after about an hour they took away one man in handcuffs. Someone cleared out the crap they left behind but today, two days later they are back. There are three people camping there. They are easily seen from both sides of the wash. They now have a big pile of what I would call stolen bicycles and what I think are two women look like they are cooking something.

Is it legal for them to camp in the wash at this location, make a fire and bring in a bunch of junk? Who should I report this to? The dead brush I have been talking about for nearly a year is still there. If these folks are allowed to build a fire in the wash and it gets away from them or a wind comes up, they easily could set these two gullies on fire. Do we really have to wait for that to happen?

I also saw two camps in Hansen Dam area today just to the left of Orcas as you drive in off of Foothill. They are hidden in the trees across the empty field and very nice cars are driving in there through where the horses walk in off the pavement. This is just opposite the back trail along where the horse stalls are that run horizontal to Foothill between the stalls and the Cactus place. I cant imagine anything legal is goin on in there.

I appreciate your time to advise who to report these two locations to so I can do that hopefully today.

It would be great if your office could put out a map showing the contacts for the various locations. It is confusing and difficult to know who is responsible for what area.

Thank you.

[REDACTED]

On Mon, Apr 29, 2019 at 8:13 AM [REDACTED] wrote:

Good Morning Eve and Monica,
Thank you for your response.

RE your second paragraph there are 4 or 5 encampments in the area under the 210 freeway overpass in the trees o the south side of the overpass. Your group needed to take a better look if they thought there was only one. They have built little house with lumber. They are hidden in the trees and some are on what I call the concrete over rocks spillway. There is also a tent in the LT Wash on the north side of the freeway. Yesterday afternoon, we had a police helicopter circling that tent for about an hour with cop cars lining both sides of the wash trying to get the people to come out of the tent. One officer that I could see had his shotgun drawn. I did not have a clear view of both sides. Eventually I saw a FB post that said the people came out of the tent and one was taken away in handcuffs.

They never should have been allowed to build their tent and live in the Wash in the first place. It would be appreciated if your office could take a faster, more active and continuous approach to getting these drug addicts, criminals, and whatever out of Hansen Dam, out from under the fringe areas of Hansen Dam and out of the wash. Your office along with the City Council and Mayor Garcetti are letting this happen. The community is upset and mad about the whole thing getting more and more out of control.

Please step up and clear this out. A good way to start is to remove the trees in that area that are hiding the camps and providing shade. Trees should not be in the wash in the first place.

Thank you for your time.

[REDACTED]

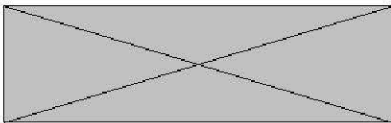
On Fri, Apr 26, 2019 at 4:02 PM Eve Sinclair <eve.sinclair@lacity.org> wrote:

Hello, [REDACTED]. As I mentioned previously in my email of April 19, our office organized a large coordinated effort with several agencies this past week, including the LAPD Offroad team, the Hansen Dam Park Rangers, the LAPD HOPE team, and LAHSA outreach workers. We spent the day identifying and visiting encampments throughout Hansen Dam, including doing outreach with multiple homeless individuals, cleaning out abandoned encampments, posting 24-hour notice on occupied encampments, and more.

As for your specific question about the encampments under/around the overpass that crosses the Little Tujunga creek, per the Master Maintenance Agreement between the City of LA and the State of California, the City of LA (in this case, Rec and Parks) is responsible for the ground/facilities running under the freeway, and Cal Trans is responsible for encampments on the actual freeway structure itself (there was only one encampment under the freeway overpass when we were there and it was located up in the rafters of the freeway). In addition, Cal Trans holds jurisdiction and maintenance on the Cal Trans property running alongside the 210 freeway, where the tents are located in that area. Nevertheless, the police spoke with the men there and they began packing up. In addition, I have reported these encampments to Cal Trans through <https://csr.dot.ca.gov/> and also to Jude Hernandez of the Assemblymember's office and asked for prioritization in these encampments being addressed.

In regards to the rights of the homeless in the City of Los Angeles, I will refer you to a page on the LA City Attorney's website that discusses the laws regarding homelessness, recent court decisions that impact enforcement, and other information you might find relevant to this issue: <https://www.lacityattorney.org/homelessness>.

Thanks again for reaching out to our office. We will continue to organize and coordinate the appropriate City of LA agencies to address encampments within Hansen Dam, as well as continue to report encampments in other jurisdictions to the appropriate contacts to address them. I am also sharing with you again a link to LAHSA's Homeless Outreach Portal (<https://www.lacounty.gov/lahop/>), which enables anyone to report any type of homeless individual, encampment, vehicle dwelling, etc directly to outreach workers. Once the outreach workers connect with the homeless, they can begin the process to move them into shelter.

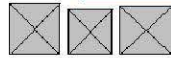


Eve Sinclair, Area Director
Sunland-Tujunga Office

Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez, 7th District

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On Wed, Apr 24, 2019 at 11:52 AM [REDACTED] wrote:

Good Morning,

I spoke with Jude Fernandez about the Cal Trans encampment at the Osborne exit off the 210. I guess it is on the list and he said to check back in about 30 days. Meanwhile this camp is growing.

On another matter, I was made aware through a FB post that you (Eve) took a little trip in an ATV through Hansen Dam re inspecting for the encampments down there. The post also showed the now several camps on the south side of the 210 built on what I call the spillway embankment in the LT wash. This is growing as well. This area provides shade and water for these camps. This person also posted that she was told it is ok for these camps to be there. Can you comment on that please. It is impossible to ride through there now as they spook the horses. They are hidden in the brush and trees and when they move suddenly the tarps start flapping or they make noise,, the horses refuse to go through there, some turn and try to bolt back in the direction they came. This is dangerous to both horses and riders. Basically they have cut off the safe access for horses from the north to Hansen Dam. Is this ok?

Who is responsible for this area? Officer Torres has said it is Rec and Parks but they have done nothing about removing

these camps. Who is the park for exactly? Are the homeless druggies allowed to have camps in all LA City parks or just ours? Do they have more and better rights than the community who lives here? And need I even have to repeat that this is a huge fire danger to LVT and the people living on Clybourn. This ties into my long standing request to have the bamboo and dead brush removed from the trail head on corner of Foothill and Clybourn. A request that has been spinning around for nearly a year.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Best,



Thank you.



On Tue, Apr 23, 2019 at 9:15 AM [REDACTED] wrote:

Good Morning Eve and Monica,
We had another fire in Hansen Dam last night. This is the 2nd one that I know of in this location in a week and around the 5th or 6th one this month in Hansen Dam. Another addict camp warming fire is what I hear. Some of them are camp fires, some are deliberate arson which you guys insist on calling Brush Fires.

Where are you and the others with clearing out these drug addicts camps in Hansen Dam? Are you at all focused on keeping us safe or are you focused on protecting what you call the Homeless? Open fires are illegal in Hansen Dam. Are these people getting arrested? If not what is the punishment? They are allowed to keep their little camp obviously. So they are getting another slap on the wrist while the community waits for the winds and prayers?

My corner still hasn't been cleared.

There are so many agencies involved with HD it makes it easy to point a finger elsewhere and keep the community busy chasing our tail. CD7 needs to take this on, make it happen and do the follow up. Please!



On Fri, Apr 19, 2019 at 12:06 AM Eve Sinclair <eve.sinclair@lacity.org> wrote:

Hello, [REDACTED] As I mentioned earlier, the encampment along the Osborne freeway off ramp is located on property owned by Cal Trans, a state agency. Unfortunately, it is not part of the City of LA right-of-way, so the City does not have jurisdiction on that property. After the clearing of the previous encampments in the vicinity, when this encampment reformed near the off-ramp, I reported this both to Cal Trans directly and also to Jude Hernandez of the office of Assemblymember Rivas, who can help navigate state agencies. I am including a link to Cal Trans here where you can also file a report on this particular encampment: <https://csr.dot.ca.gov/>. I am also including contact information below for Jude Hernandez, the area rep for Lake View Terrace for the Assemblymember's office.

Jude Anthony Hernandez

Field Representative | Assemblywoman Luz Rivas AD39

9300 Laurel Cyn Blvd. 1st Floor

Arleta CA, 91331

Phone: (818) 504-3911

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Email: jude.hernandez@asm.ca.gov

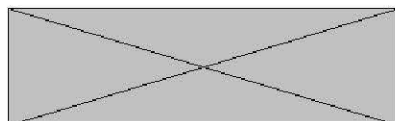
As for Hansen Dam and encampments, our office is currently organizing a large coordinated effort with several agencies, including the LAPD Offroad team, the Park Rangers, LAPD HOPE team, and LAHSA outreach workers. Thank you for reaching out to our office, and I will keep you posted with updates.

Also, I am attaching our current one-pager on resources the Councilwoman has secured to combat homelessness in our district, as well as information on how to report homeless encampments and vehicle dwelling. I am also including a couple of short videos that you made find helpful, including one on our pilot Safe Parking program. You can find out more about that program below:

<https://www.lacounty.gov/lahop/> - Los Angeles Homeless Outreach Portal - how to use

<https://www.lahsa.org/videos?v=241-safe-parking-in-council-district-7-> - CD7's Safe Parking program

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kEFIRkkupo4> - LAFH's Campus



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On Thu, Apr 18, 2019 at 9:34 AM [REDACTED] wrote:

Hello Eve,

Would really like to hear back from you.

FYI, there was some sort of trash fire last night on Clybourn at the corner where it meets Foothill. This is exactly what sends shards of fear through me. The firemen put it out. As usual comments are not forthcoming about how it started. Thank God there was no wind last evening. It is just a matter of time. Do we have to wait for a "dead horse" before anyone does anything?

Oh and the encampment along the Osborne off ramp was still there last time I looked. Why doesn't Monica open up the lawn and the parking lot at the Sunland Tujunga office for these folks if the City is so intent on protecting them?

On Fri, Apr 12, 2019 at 2:00 PM [REDACTED] wrote:

Hi Eve,

We spoke a couple of weeks ago about the increasing number of fires in Hansen Dam being started by the homeless.

I told you about the large encampment across from the park entrance on Foothill, recently run out by the police, and that they had moved to the gully that runs along the Osborne exit off the 210 ending at Foothill. That encampment is still there and growing. It is difficult to report it on 311 because they ask for an address and a general description is not acceptable.

Were you able to report this as promised?

Also you were going to look into why the brush in the gully at Clybourn & Foothill has yet to be cleared. It is on Army Corps of Engineer property supposedly leased by Rec and Parks, City of LA. This goes back to emails starting last August 2018. No one is taking responsibility for this property. What were you able to find out about this? No brush has been cleared and there have been 3 or 4 fires in Hansen Dam since we last spoke.

